

Police and Fire Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2021

Attendance: Frank King, Vicki Peterson, Mike Dalecki, Jane Peoples, Deb Rice, Council Liaison Kathy Kopp, City Manager Adam Ruechel, Fire Chief Ryan Simmons, Police Lieutenant Andrea Droessler, Police Lieutenant Josh Grabandt, Chief of Police Doug McKinley

- The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Dalecki
- The meeting minutes from the Jan. 5th meeting were approved unanimously (motion by Peoples, 2nd by Rice).
- There were no citizen comments or observations
- Fire Department Update:

I. Membership Update

- Our volunteer membership remains at 50. We have had 2 applications turned in and another individual show interest in joining.

II. Reports of Significant Service Calls

- We have had 54 calls to date for the year compared to 34 for the same time in 2020.

III. Information Updates

- The Fire Department Comprehensive Analysis has been completed and the final report was presented to the Common Council on Tuesday, February 23rd. PFC members will receive a copy of the report in the coming week.
- Continue to attend bi-weekly meetings with City EOC key staff to plan and adapt to the still changing environment and mandates in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Approximately 85%-90% of volunteer firefighters have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

IV. Personnel Issues/Concerns/Updates

- Nothing at this time.
- Police Department Update: The new hire process for Police Officers is underway; applications are due on 3/12; fitness testing, written tests and Sergeant interviews take place on 3/20; PFC interviews on 4/6
- Stabbing Incident at Walmart on 2/26; led to multiple search warrants, 2 vehicles impounded and 2 tactical call-outs; All of this was coordinated by Det. Amy Hartwig and the 2 Lieutenants; a male juvenile has been arrested and placed in secure detention; the PD received Lots of great help from area Law Enforcement, EMS and especially the Fire Department
- A Dept. meeting is scheduled for 3/10 and awards will be presented to staff members
- A case involving damage to approximately 50 mailboxes in the city and the surrounding area has been resolved with criminal charges against 4 juveniles
- 13 recent incidents involving theft from vehicles have been resolved with the arrest of a suspect; he had been cited previously for thefts from vehicles but due to CV-19 and other concerns, we could not keep him in jail and he kept offending

- The annual report has been completed and e-mailed to all the Commissioners. Hard copies are available upon request.
- The Commission went into closed session at 5:20 p.m. (motion by Peterson, 2nd by Peoples) per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c)-Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Specifically, the Commission went into closed session to conduct Police Sergeant interviews. Council Liaison Kopp, City Manager Ruechel, Lt. Droessler, Lt. Grabandt and Chief McKinley were allowed to remain during the closed session.
- The Commission returned to open session at 7:23 p.m. (motion by Peoples, 2nd by Peterson).
- The Commission established an eligibility pool for the position of Police Sergeant consisting of Jake Brown, Coree Lee, Paul Rehlinger, and Sam Vandevort. The motion passed unanimously. (motion by Peterson, 2nd by King).
- The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. (motion by Peoples, 2nd by Rice)

Please note the meeting took place in the City Hall Common Council Chambers so the interviews could be conducted in person and observe social distancing practices.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug McKinley
Chief of Police